



## AGENDA

# ***The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County...***

## ***Board of Electrical Examiners and Appeals AGENDA MINUTES***

Meeting Date: Tuesday – March 26, 2019  
 Place: Metro Office Building – Davidson Room – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 800 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, South  
 Time: 1:30 P.M.

PLUMBING BOARD MEMBERS	MEMBER TERM EXPIRES	MEMBER ATTENDANCE	STAFF PRESENT
R. Michael Williams, Chairman Robert Cohen Thomas Greer Scott Newell Mark Poole Wayne Settles Pamela Wyatt Terry Atwood Justin deGraauw	February 15, 2020 April 15, 2021 February 15, 2023 April 16, 2020 February 2, 2020 October 19, 2019 October 19, 2019 June 20, 2021 February 15, 2023	Absent Absent Present Absent Present Present Present Present Present	Wade Hill Karene West Julie Welch Tim VanDeGejuchte Jeremy Barber

### AGENDA TOPICS

- I. Approval of Last Month's Minutes and Call Meeting To Order
- II. Appeal Cases
- III. Appearing Before The Board
- IV. Registrations
- V. Master Plumber Examination Approval
- VI. Journeyman Plumber Examination Approval
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Consent Agenda
- IX. Adjournment

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Karene West.

Approval of the June 27, 2017 Minutes:

Changes: None - Approved as written

Approval By: Pamela Wyatt

Signature of Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: Approved as written

First: Wyatt

Second: Settles

Opposed: None (6/0)

**II. APPEAL CASES**

No Applicants – No Business

**III. APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD**

No Applicants – No Business

**IV. REGISTRATIONS**

No Applications

**V. MASTER PLUMBER EXAMINATION APPROVAL**

No Applicants

**VI. JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER EXAMINATION APPROVAL**

No Applicants

**VII. OTHER BUSINESS****ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The Board, without objection, deferred the election of officers to the next meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

Peter Graser (Present)  
Copperweld Building Wire  
Marietta, Georgia

Mr. Graser is requesting to appear before the Board to ask that the language be changed on the Local Amendment pertaining to Aluminum and *copper*-clad aluminum conductors. Please see below the suggested Amendment:

**Local Amendment Article in Question:**

16.20.150 – Amendments to the National Electric Code

- C. Section 210.19 (A) (1) of the 2011 Edition of the National *Electrical* Code is amended by deleting Section 210.19 (A) (1) and substituting the following:

(1) General. Branch-circuit conductors shall have an ampacity not less than the maximum load to be served. Where a Branch circuit supplies continuous loads or any combination of continuous and non-continuous loads, the minimum branch-circuit conductor size, before the application of any adjustment or correction factors, shall have an allowable ampacity equal to or greater than the non-continuous load plus 125 percent of the continuous load. Aluminum and *copper*-clad aluminum conductors shall not be used on any branch circuit *wiring*.

Exception: Where the assembly, including the overcurrent devices protecting the branch circuit(s), is listed for operation at 100 percent of its rating, the ampacity of the branch circuit conductors shall be permitted to be not less than the sum of the continuous load plus the non-continuous load.

**Suggestion for Amendment:**

Propose to Remove the restriction: Aluminum and *copper*-clad aluminum conductors shall not be used on any branch circuit *wiring*... or, at the very least, provide an Exception where Copper-Clad Aluminum conductors, as a requirement for installation, must carry a "safety listing" from a Nationally Recognized Test Laboratory (such as UL or ETL) to guarantee safety and Code compliance. We feel that Copper-Clad Aluminum wire is being unfairly associated with Single-metal Aluminum wire. There has not been one documented case where Copper-Clad Aluminum wire was the root cause of an electrical fire.

**Suggested Language:**

"Single-metal aluminum conductors shall not be used on any branch circuit wiring. Copper-Clad Aluminum conductors may be used in branch circuit wiring provided that they carry a safety listing from a Nationally Recognized Test Laboratory (NRTL) with wire and cable in the Scope of Recognition (such as UL or ETL)."

**Key Points of the Presentation in Substantiation of the COPPERWELD Request to the Appeals Board:**

- Metro Nashville is the only major Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in the Southeast USA that prohibits the use of Copper Clad Aluminum conductors for branch circuits.
- In 2018, COPPERWELD relaunched Copper-Clad Aluminum NM Cable for use in branch circuits due to the high cost of copper and copper theft. We currently have COPPERWELD installations in homes of 5 of the top 60 national builders in the country.
- Copper-Clad Aluminum conductors for branch circuits have been accepted by the NEC since 1972. The NEC does not permit unsafe products to be in Code. From 1970 – 71, Underwriters Laboratories conducted an extensive Fact-Finding study of Copper Clad Aluminum Conductors to verify the safety of the product, which allowed it to enter Code in 1972. The Safety of Copper-Clad Aluminum conductors has never been a question.

Key Points of the Presentation in Substantiation of the COPPERWELD Request to the Appeals Board:

- All COPPERWELD Cu-Clad Conductors carry UL safety listings. Additionally, COPPERWELD Cu-Clad Conductors are Identified for their Designed and Proper use by ETL performance testing.
- When installed according to table 310.15(B)16 of the NEC, those circuits using COPPERWELD Cu-Clad conductors are 7% more energy-efficient than those installed with traditional copper wire of the same amperage rating. This has the potential to translate into significant yearly energy savings for communities that use COPPERWELD.
- COPPERWELD conductors are a proven theft deterrent; scrap dealers will not accept bimetallic wire as it contaminates other scrap streams such as pure copper or aluminum
- COPPERWELD conductors are some 20% less expensive to install than traditional copper conductors of the same amperage rating. This will decrease building costs in Metro Nashville.
- COPPERWELD holds Membership within the following Relevant Associations: International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC), National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), The Wire Association International (WAI), American Bimetallics Association (ABA), American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM).

NOTES: The Board discussed Mr. Graser's proposal to change the language on the Local Amendment pertaining to aluminum and copper-clad aluminum conductors. This was an informational discussion only, with no action taken at his time. Mr. Hill informed Board members that he will gather more information to present to the Board prior to the adoption of the new electrical code later this year. He will seek Board member's input on this and other proposed amendments before the new code is adopted.

Motion: No action was taken.  
First:  
Second:

Opposed or Abstained:

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

No Business

IX. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: Adjourned  
First: Greer  
Second: Poole

Opposed or Abstained:  
None (6/0)